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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY

USSR (Baltic)

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1A

SUBJECT

Soviet Searchlight Activity
in the Gulf of Finland

DATE DISTR.

4 September 1953

25X1C

NO. OF PAGES

1

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

REFERENCES

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. From 0200 to 0300 hours on 24 February 1953, when [REDACTED] ship passed Hiiumaa Island (N 58-54, E 22-34), searchlight activity was unusually intensive. One searchlight emplacement on the shore of Hiiumaa Island near Dager Ort, east of Ristna lighthouse, was determined by bearings and plotted on the chart at N 58-56.5, E 22-05. Although 10 miles from Dager Ort lighthouse, [REDACTED] ship was flashed on. A short time later, a small vessel proceeding close to the shore was flashed on. The vessel made several runs on opposite courses parallel to the shore; the ship appeared to be towing a target, which was fired at by a coastal battery. Tracer projectiles, as well as flashes of firing guns, were observed. The battery was located close to the searchlight emplacement.
2. Soviet searchlight batteries determined by bearings during the night of 9 March 1953 included batteries at N 58-55, E 22-12; N 59-02, E 22-35; N 59-23-30, E 23-24; N 59-14, E 23-40; N 59-21-30, E 23-57; on Naika Pakrii Island; N 59-23-30, E 24-13; N 59-28-30, E 24-27; N 59-33, E 24-30, which is on Naissaar Island; N 59-35, E 24-30 on Naissaar Island; and N 59-41-30, E 25-02.
3. The searchlights swept the sea and the skies for maximum periods of three minutes, which came at irregular intervals of between 30 seconds and 20 minutes (sic).

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